

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 AGR-10 TAR-01 SS-15 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5212

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UNCLAS THE HAGUE 0689

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, UK, NL

SUBJECT: DUTCH PM FAVORS MORE LENIENT EC ATTITUDE
TOWARDS UK

PRIME MINISTER DEN UYL TOLD HIS WEEEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE
FEB 7 THAT HOLLAND IS VERY FAVORABLY DISPOSED TOWARDS A
"NOT INCONSIDERABLE" REDUCTION IN BRITAIN'S CONTRIBUTION
TO THE EC. HE NOTED THAT MAJOR ITEM ON AGENDA FOR MEETING
OF EC GOVERNMENT LEADERS IN DUBLIN MARCH 10-11 WOULD BE
FINAL DECISION ON UK'S REQUEST FOR RENEGOTIATIONS. HE SAID
GON CONSIDERS BRITISH STAY IN COMMUNITY VERY IMPORTANT AND
FEELS REDUCTION OF BRITISH FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION REASONABLE,
BECAUSE ECONOMIC RECESSION IN BRITAIN IN PAST FEW YEARS HAS
CAUSED SHARE OF BRITISH ECONOMY IN TOTAL EC PRODUCT TO
REMAIN BELOW EXPECTATIONS. DEN UYL EXPECTED THAT
ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL TO REDUCE CONTRIBUTION WOULD INCREASE
CHANCE OF BRITISH VOTING PRO EEC IN JULY REFERENDUM.
GOULD

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